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tained much more than that. It contains the Babylonian equivalent of the Garden of Eden, the Cherubim, and the Fall of Man, but, most surprising of all, it has also an account of redemption by the death of a god. It is needless to say that the atmosphere and point of view of the narrative are quite different from that in Genesis. Nevertheless the main features of the narrative in Genesis are represented in it. These tablets, published in Germany in 1917 and 1919, did not reach America until May 1920. Translations of them will be found in the third edition of G. A. Barton's *Archæology and the Bible*, which was published in the autumn of 1920.

NOTES

Twelve public lectures have been given by the staff of the School. In the last six Dr. Albright treated the themes, "The Religion of the Canaanites," "Moses and the Prophets," "Hebrew Poetry," and Dr. McCown, "Magic and Miracle," "Ancient and Modern Spiritism," "Prophecy and Apocalypse."

The Palestine Oriental Society, founded a year ago, largely through the energy of our staff, is contributing much to the intellectual life of Jerusalem. It holds several stated meetings in the year and numbers 150 members in Palestine. The first volume of its Journal is now in the printer's hands, under the editorship of Dr. Albright, who is also a Vice-President of the Society.

The preliminary report of the first campaign of the excavations of the British School in Palestine at Ashkelon appears in the *Palestine Exploration Fund Quarterly Statement* for January. The ceramic finds extend all the way from the post-Neolithic to the Roman period. The most interesting field of discovery is "a temple or other public building in the best Roman style, constructed entirely (columns, entablature, walls and all) in Greek and Italian marble; vast in its conception and characteristic in its execution." This structure is connected with a remarkable round tank, which is probably the "Peace Pool" recorded by Antoninus Martyr (560-570 A. D.), and which doubtless goes back to the ancient fish pool of the goddess Derketo, worshipped in Ashkelon. The name of the ancient god of Ashkelon, Dagon, was popularly interpreted as "fish god," so that the pool must be very ancient.

The newest book on Jerusalem is the important work just published by Raymond Weill, *La Cité de David* (P. Geuthner, Paris, 1921). Captain Weill was engaged before the War in excavating the Ophel, the southern end of the eastern Hill of Jerusalem, which is now known to be the site of the original Jerusalem, or, as the Bible calls it, the City of David. As a result of his own work, in comparison with those of his predecessors, Parker, Bliss, Guthe, and others, Captain Weill presents in an elaborate and logical way the unravelling of many problems connected with the topography of the most ancient part of the Holy City.

In laying the foundations of a new Latin Church just to the south of the Garden of Gethsemane the architects have come upon the remains of a fine Byzantine church, which was destroyed by the Persians in 614. It was some 60 feet long and 50 wide. The floor was paved with a superb mosaic. At the eastern end the natural rock had been squared and left as the basis of the raised presbyterium or chancel.